

# SHINING TIME STATION

"LEAD, FOLLOW OR GET OUT OF THE WAY"

BY

JILL GOLICK

From characters and storylines created by Britt Allcroft and Rick Siggelkow

TORONTO SEPTEMBER 23, 1992 SCENE 1 (MAINSET)

(DAN IS PRACTICING VOLLEYBALL SERVES WITH A BEACH BALL. BILLY ENTERS CARRYING FISHING GEAR)

BILLY:

Where are Kara and Becky today, Dan?

DAN:

Kara went to visit her grandpa, Harry, and Becky went shopping with her dad.

(STACY ENTERS FROM THE PLATFORM)

STACY:

No ball playing in the station, Dan.

DAN:

Watch this serve, Aunt Stacy.

STACY:

You know the rules. Don't hit that --

DAN:

Great, huh?

(STACY WATCHES IN DISMAY AS DAN HITS THE BALL. IT LANDS NEAR BILLY WHO PICKS IT UP AND TOSSES IT BACK TO DAN)

STACY:

Did you fix the crossing signal, Billy?

BILLY:

Not yet.

STACY:

Will you do it today, please?

BILLY:

I can fix that signal any time, Stacy. But there isn't going to be a better day for trout fishing this season.

(STACY'S FRUSTRATION MOUNTS. SCHEMER ENTERS WITH BOXES. HE STACKS THEM NEAR THE ARCADE)

STACY:

You can't put those there, Schemer.

SCHEMER:

Sure I can. Watch me.

STACY:

Schemer, it's dangerous. They might fall on someone.

SCHEMER:

Don't be such a worry wart, Miss Jones. Only a total klutz would get in the way of falling boxes.

(DAN SERVES HIS VOLLEYBALL. SCHEMER TRIES TO CATCH IT BUT ENDS UP FALLING INTO BOXES WHICH THEN FALL OVER ON TOP OF HIM)

STACY:

Why doesn't anyone around here listen to me?

(BILLY WALKS BY)

BILLY:

Did you say something, Stacy?

(SUDDENLY J.B. KING IS UNDER THE ARCH)

KING:

(K-TEL AD VOICE)

Do people ignore you when you talk to them? Do you make rules that nobody follows? Do you have the feeling that everything is getting out of control? If you answered yes to even one of these questions then you need: Bossing.

# ( HOLDS UP BOOK)

Bossing solved all my problems, Miss Jones. Now it can solve yours, too. This one thin book will teach you everything you need to know to be the kind of Boss that people fear and obey. Thanks to this book people jump when I yell.

#### STACY:

(TAKING THE BOOK AND READING FROM IT)

"You're the boss. Be bossy." Oh, Mr. King, I don't think this book is right for me.

#### KING:

What's good for the Indian Valley Railroad, Miss Jones, is good for you.

STACY:

(WATCHING AS SCHEMER UNPACKS CHEESE, GIGGLES, THROWING PACKING MATERIALS EVERYWHERE)

I don't think I can be that bossy, Mr.King.

KING:

Try it, Miss Jones. That's an order.

STACY:

All right, Mr. King.

(TO SCHEMER, TRYING TO BE FIRM)

Schemer, would you... um... would you please move these boxes?

(SCHEMER STILL IGNORES HER. STACY LOOKS AT KING)

KING:

Turn to page 16, Miss Jones. Remember: You're the boss. Be bossy.

(STACY TURNS THE PAGES OF THE BOOK TO PAGE 16 AND READS:)

STACY:

"When all else fails, raise your voice."

(SHE LOOKS AT MR. KING FOR CONFIRMATION)

Yell?

(KING NODS ENTHUSIASTICALLY. STACY RAISES HER VOICE)

I said move the boxes, Schemer!

(SCHEMER MOVES THE BOXES OVER HALF AN INCH)

SCHEMER:

There.

(STACY TURNS BACK TO KING, BEATEN, BUT HE PUSHES HER BACK TO SCHEMER'S DIRECTION FIRMLY)

KING:

Page 20. Quickly.

STACY:

(FLIPPING THROUGH THE PAGES AND READING)

"If that doesn't work, yell louder."

(STACY THINKS ABOUT IT, GATHERS HER STRENGTH AND YELLS)

GET THESE BOXES OUT OF HERE!! NOW!!

(SCHEMER IS MUCH SHAKEN AND HURRIEDLY BEGINS GATHERING UP BOXES)

SCHEMER:

Okay, okay. Whatever you say, Miss Jones.

KING:

Good work, Miss Jones. You're a natural leader. You just needed the book to tell you what to do. Leadership, Miss Jones, that's the ticket.

# SCENE 2 (INT. JUKEBOX)

TEX:

Maybe we should get us some of that.

DIDI:

A leader?

TITO:

Boss!

TEX:

I accept.

DIDI:

Sorry, Tex. In this case the right man for the job is a woman.

GRACE:

Thanks, Didi.

DIDI:

Not you. The boss is the woman who plays the drums.

TITO:

I'm just a natural born boss.

REX:

You?! Me.

ALL:

Me! No, Me! etc.

SCENE 3 (MAINSET)

(KING THUMPS THE COVER OF THE BOOK)

#### KING:

Making rules, setting limits, using discipline. Remember, Miss Jones, the future of the Indian Valley Railway is resting on your shoulders.

STACY:

It is?

KING:

So get out there and be bossy. I'm going to watch and keep a score card.

(STACY IS STILL NOT SURE ABOUT ALL THIS AS SHE APPROACHES DAN WHO IS PLAYING WITH HIS BALL)

STACY:

Dan, I told you to put away that ball.

DAN:

I will, but first, watch me serve. I'm getting really good.

STACY:

If you do it again, I'm going to have to... do something.

DAN:

(SERVING THE BALL)

Just this once. Last time, really.

(STACY LOOKS OVER AT KING WHO HOLDS UP A SCORE CARD SHOWING A ZERO)

STACY:

(HITTING HER BREAK POINT)

Don't say I didn't warn you.

(STACY PULLS THE PLUG TO DEFLATE THE BALL)

DAN:

Hey! Do you know how long it took me to blow that up?

STACY:

Maybe next time you'll remember: there's no ball playing in the station.

(NO SOONER SAID, THAN STACY IS RECONSIDERING WHETHER IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO, BUT KING CHANGES HER SCORE TO A 5)

(BILLY ENTERS FROM HIS OFFICE CARRYING HIS FISHING ROD AND TACKLE BOX)

STACY:

Did you fix the crossing signal?

BILLY:

I'll get to it.

(BILLY STARTS TO WALK TOWARD THE EXIT. KING STARTS FLIPPING NUMBERS BACKWARDS: 4, 3, 2. STACY HURRIES TO STOP BILLY, WORKING AT BEING BUSY)

STACY:

Where... where do you think you're going?

## BILLY:

I already told you. It's trout season, Stacy. I thought I'd take an hour or two and go fishing.

#### STACY:

# (A SUDDEN RUSH OF FRUSTRATION)

Mr. Two Feathers, you are not going fishing.

#### BILLY:

Do you want to run that by me again, Stacy?

#### STACY:

You have responsibilities. You can't run off and go fishing just because you feel like it. You get that crossing signal fixed. Or you don't go anywhere.

(BILLY STUDIES STACY FOR A BEAT, THEN TURNS AND EXITS TO HIS OFFICE.)

## BILLY:

I suppose the trout will have to wait. And so will I.

(KING FLASHES STACY AN 8. SCHEMER ENTERS EATING THE LAST CHEESE GIGGLE FROM A BAG AND PREPARES TO SHOOT IT AT THE TICKET BOOTH)

#### STACY:

Don't even think about it.

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# SCENE 3 (CONT'D)

(SCHEMER TAKES AIM, STACY LEVELS A DEADLY LOOK AT HIM AND SPEAKS COMMANDINGLY)

STACY:

No.

(SCHEMER STUFFS THE BAG IN HIS POCKET AND HURRIES AWAY. KING FLASHES A 10. STACY LOOKS SATISFIED AND PLEASED WITH HERSELF)

SCENE 4 (CONT'D) (WORKSHOP)

(BILLY HAS THE CROSSING SIGNAL ON THE WORK BENCH. HE SMACKS IT A GOOD ONE WITH A HAMMER. MR. C APPEARS HOLDING HIS EARS)

MR. C:

What's all the racket?

BILLY:

I'm trying to fix this crossing signal.

MR. C:

It sounds like you're trying to break it.

BILLY:

I have to fit this piece... To tell you the truth, Mr. Conductor, I feel like smashing this signal.

MR. C:

Oh, I see. You must be having trouble getting along with someone.

BILLY:

How did you know?

MR. C:

I'm having a similar problem. There's a mouse in my signal house who just won't leave.

BILLY:

You're not afraid a little mouse, are you?

MR. C:

Little!? Compared to me?

BILLY:

Oh, I see your point.

MR. C:

And don't even mention a mouse trap.

BILLY:

No, no, of course not.

MR. C:

Those things are dangerous.

BILLY:

Have you tried making friends with the mouse?

MR. C:

Friends? With that rodent! He couldn't get along with anyone. He eats like a horse. Do you know he ate every bit of food in the house and then left the fridge door open? You'd think he was born in a barn. And what a slob. Always dropping dirty socks everywhere.

BILLY:

I guess I know how you feel, Mr. Conductor.

MR. C:

Like smashing something.

BILLY:

Be my guest.

(BILLY HANDS MR. C. THE HAMMER. MR C. TAKES A BIG SWING AT THE SIGNAL. IT RINGS LIKE A GIANT GONG.)

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SCENE 4 (CONT'D) (SFX: GIANT GONG) SCENE 5 (MAINSET)

(DAN IS CUTTING SNOWFLAKES OUT OF PAPER. STACY COMES OVER)

STACY:

You can't do that here, Dan.

DAN:

I won't break anything.

STACY:

It's too messy.

DAN:

I'll clean up.

STACY:

No.

DAN:

But you let me do it before.

STACY:

This is now. We have some new rules to make the station a better place.

DAN:

Lucky I brought my pogo stick.

(STACY TAKES AWAY THE POGO STICK)

STACY:

Not in the station.

(DAN TAKES A HARMONICA OUT OF HIS POCKET. STACY SHAKES HER HEAD AND WALKS AWAY)

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# SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

DAN:

You can't do anything around here anymore.

# SCENE 6 (INT. JUKEBOX)

GRACE:

Poor Dan.

REX:

The station's got to have rules, otherwise it'll be just like a barnyard.

TEX:

What's wrong with a barnyard, Rex?

REX:

Nothin', if you're a cow.

GRACE:

When there are too many rules, I'd rather be a cow.

DIDI:

Does everyone feel as blue as I do?

OTHERS:

Uh-huh. Yep. Sure do. Etc.

TEX:

Looks to me like Dan feels even bluer.

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SCENE 7 (MAINSET)

(SADLY, DAN DROPS NICKEL INTO THE JUKEBOX)

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SCENE 8 (INT. JUKEBOX)

(PUPPET SONG "CANNONBALL BLUES" )

(AS THE PUPPETS PLAY, WE SEE STACY HANGING SIGNS ON THE STATION WALL. THE WORD "NO" APPEARS IN BIG BOLD LETTERS IN FRONT OF A LIST OF WORDS IN SMALLER LETTERS: "BALLS, KITES, BICYCLES, TRICYCLES, UNICYCLES, FRISBEES, HARMONICA". ANOTHER SIMILAR SIGN READS "NO LITTERING, SMOKING, CUTTING, RUNNING, JUMPING, PLAYING, HOPPING, THROWING, DRUMMING, SKIPPING, PAINTING." A THIRD SIGN READS "NO DOGS, CATS, HORSES, GOATS, CHICKENS, GEESE.")

SCENE 9 (MAINSET)

(LINES AND ARROWS MARK THE FLOOR OF THE STATION. STACY IS AT THE TICKET BOOTH, BUSILY READING HER BOOK. BILLY WALKS BY)

STACY:

You're in the wrong lane, Billy.

BILLY:

I beg your pardon?

STACY:

You see the lines on the floor? They're lanes. That one's for going the other way. This one over here is for going that way.

BILLY:

Let me get this straight, I can only walk in this direction, in this lane?

STACY:

(BARELY LOOKING UP FROM THE BOOK)

It's for the good of the station.

(SCHEMER LURKS IN THE BACKGROUND, LISTENING)

BILLY:

The good of the station, eh?

STACY:

It's another idea I got from the book J.B. King gave me. I have an extra copy if you'd like to read it.

BILLY:

Anything in that book of yours about people, Stacy?

STACY:

What?

BILLY:

You know, people. How each one of us likes to be treated like someone special?

STACY:

That's what the rules are for, Billy. So Shining Time Station can be a special place.

(THE PHONE RINGS. STACY PICKS IT UP)

Shining Time Station. Stacy Jones speaking.

BILLY:

Shining Time Station was a special place before. Now it's just rules.

(STACY HOLDS UP A SIGN. BILLY READS IT)

"No talking."

(SHE TURNS AWAY FROM BILLY, WHO EXITS TO THE PLATFORM. SCHEMER SNEAKS UP AND GRABS THE EXTRA COPY OF THE BOOK)

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# SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

# (READING TITLE)

Bossing: How to be successful and loose all your friends." Just what I need.

SCENE 10 (MAINSET)

(DAN IS LOOKING PRETTY MISERABLE. MR. C. POPS ON. HE'S HOLDING A LEASH. WHATEVER IS ATTACHED TO IT IS OFF CAMERA)

MR. C:

No use crying over spilt milk.

DAN:

I'm not crying, Mr. Conductor.

MR. C:

Not you, Dan. Her.

(FOLLOW THE LEASH TO THE KITTEN AT THE OTHER END)

She keeps stepping in her bowl of milk and spilling it. Silly kitten.

DAN:

I didn't know you had a cat, Mr. Conductor.

MR. C:

I don't. I borrowed her from a friend. To help me with that rat of a mouse.

DAN:

The mouse is still in your house?

MR. C:

But not for long. You know what chickens mice are. One look at this vicious beast and that mouse will turn and run like a frightened deer.

DAN:

I guess you're in a big hurry.

MR. C:

I'm never in a big hurry, Dan. If I'm in a hurry at all, it's usually a little one. Although once I was in a middle-sized hurry and that was plenty big for me. But right now I'm not in a big, medium, or little sized hurry. Why do you ask?

DAN:

Because, I'm not allowed to do anything around here anymore. But there's no rule against stories. Not yet.

MR. C:

Then I'll hurry up and tell you one.

(MR. C. BLOWS HIS WHISTLE)

(SPFX: THOMAS INTRO FX)

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# SCENE 11

(VT: TTE: "DUCK TAKES CHARGE")

SCENE 12 (MAINSET)

DAN:

I know how Percy and Duck felt. I hate getting bossed around.

MR. C:

Sometimes, it's for your own good. You should listen when the person telling you what to do is older and wiser and knows more about the world than you.

DAN:

Like Sir Topham Hatt.

MR. C:

Like Stacy.
I enjoyed this little chat/But now me and my kitty cat/Are off to chase a mousy rat/And hopefully, that louse will scat.

(MR. C. EXITS)

SCENE 13 (MAINSET)

IN THE ARCADE, SCHEMER IS READING THE BOOK. STACY ENTERS. SHE HANGS UP A POSTER IN THE ARCADE. IT READS: "TIME LIMIT: 3 MINUTES")

SCHEMER:

(READING)

"Time Limit: 3 minutes." What!? Miss Jones, you can't do this to me.

STACY:

We don't want people hanging around wasting their time, Schemer.

SCHEMER:

Their time, no. Their money, yes. You can barely spend a nickel in three minutes.

STACY:

I'm sorry, Schemer. that's the rule.

SCHEMER:

You'll put me out of business.

STACY:

If you want to be part of this station, you're going to have to follow my rules.

(A PASSENGER ENTERS AND STOPS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STATION. STACY AND SCHEMER HURRY TO HER)

STACY & SCHEMER:

(AT THE SAME TIME)

May I help you?

#### PASSENGER:

I'm on my way to South Gemp.

STACY:

Why don't you wait on the platform? The train will be here in just a few minutes.

#### SCHEMER:

Which gives you just the right amount of time to enjoy spending your hard-earned nickels in my fabulific arcade.

STACY:

# (TO PASSENGER)

You don't want to keep the train waiting. Time is valuable.

SCHEMER:

(GRABBING THE HANDLE OF THE SUITCASE)

Time flies when you're having fun.

STACY:

(PULLING THE SUITCASE, TOO, AND PULLING THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION)

Time is of the essence.

SCHEMER:

Time is money -- for me.

STACY:

There's a right time for everything, Schemer.

SCHEMER:

There's no time like the present, Miss Jones.

STACY:

There's no time to waste.

(STACY AND SCHEMER PULL THE SUITCASE IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS. IT POPS OPEN AND CLOTHES COME FLYING OUT. STACY STARTS STUFFING THEM BACK INTO THE SUITCASE. THE PASSENGER GRABS EVERYTHING AWAY FROM STACY)

PASSENGER:

Time for me to go.

STACY:

Good, because trains, like time, wait for no man. Or woman. This way.

PASSENGER:

Forget the train. I'm taking the bus!

(THE PASSENGER LEAVES IN A HUFF. STACY AND SCHEMER FACE EACH OTHER ANGRILY)

(ANGLE DAN PEEKING OUT OF BILLY'S OFFICE DOOR. HE PULLS HIS HEAD BACK INTO THE OFFICE AND CLOSES THE DOOR)

SCENE 14 (WORKSHOP)

(BILLY'S WORKING AT FIXING THE CROSSING SIGNAL)

BILLY:

Do you want to help me with this, Dan?

DAN:

Are you sure there's no rule against it?

BILLY:

(GIVING DAN A ROLE IN THE REPAIR OF THE SIGNAL)

Hold this. I don't think we have to worry about rules right now.

DAN:

Don't let Aunt Stacy hear you say that.

BILLY:

Stacy is doing what she thinks is best.

DAN:

Best for who?

BILLY:

For Shining Time Station. For all of us.

DAN:

I like things the way they were before.

BILLY:

But I guess your Aunt Stacy didn't.

DAN:

She didn't?

(BEAT)

You don't like all these rules, do you, Billy?

BILLY:

Some folks need rules, Dan.

DAN:

(DISAPPOINTED)

Oh.

BILLY:

But the fewer the better, as far as I'm concerned. The way I see it, rules work best with a gentle hand.

DAN:

What does that mean?

BILLY:

Well, take this crossing signal, for instance. I need to fit this little piece right in here. So I banged it with a hammer. It didn't go in. I pounded harder. Still didn't fit. I got out a bigger hammer. Still no good. All that forcing, all that effort. Just a waste of time.

DAN:

What are you going to do?

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# SCENE 14 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

<u>We</u> are going to try a little grease and some gentle persuasion.

(BILLY PUTS A BIT OF OIL OR GREASE ONTO THE PIECE AND HANDS IT TO DAN. DAN CAREFULLY SLIDES IT INTO PLACE)

DAN:

It worked!

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SCENE 15 (MAINSET)

(MR.C. APPEARS OUTSIDE HIS DOOR, LOOKS INTO THE SIGNAL HOUSE WINDOW)

MR.C.:

I want you gone by the time I get back, and tidy up before you leave...

SCENE 16 (MAINSET) (STACY IS AT THE SIDE COUNTER. MR.C. APPEARS)

MR. C:

Stacy, can I talk to you?

STACY:

Next!

MR. C:

I need help with a mouse that's as stubborn as a mule.

STACY:

I'm sorry. You'll have to line up like everybody else.

MR. C:

There is nobody else.

STACY:

Station policy. Everybody goes through the ropes.

(SHE POINTS TO THE VELVET ROPES LEADING UP TO THE DECK)

MR. C:

If it's policy, that's different.

(MR. C DISAPPEARS AND REAPPEARS WALKING BETWEEN THE VELVET ROPES)

That mouse won't leave, Stacy. I thought the cat would scare him away. But, they became friends. Now they're playing cat and mouse games. In my house. I'm at the end of my rope. And yours. Can you help me?

(HE GETS TO THE END OF THE ROPE)

STACY:

I'm sorry. I'm closing here.

(STACY PUTS UP A "CLOSED" SIGN)

MR. C:

You can't do that! I came for help.

STACY:

Try the information booth.

(MR. C LOOKS PUZZLED, BUT DISAPPEARS AND REAPPEARS AT THE INFORMATION BOOTH WHERE STACY IS SHUFFLING PAPER WORK)

MR. C:

What should I do, Stacy?

STACY:

Take a number, please.

MR. C:

I mean about the mouse.

STACY:

I can't help you if you don't have a number.

MR. C:

Why not?

STACY:

Rules are rules, Mr. C. If I make an exception for you, everyone will want special treatment.

MR. C:

What's wrong with wanting special treatment.

(DAN ENTERS AND WALKS OVER IN TIME TO HEAR WHAT MR. C SAYS. STACY IS ALREADY IMMERSED IN SOME PAPER BUSINESS AND DOESN'T EVEN NOTICE)

DAN:

Wait! Mr. Conductor! Don't go!

(IT'S TOO LATE. MR. C SPARKLES AWAY)

Aunt Stacy!

STACY:

Take a number.

DAN:

Me?

STACY:

You have to take a number just like everyone else.

DAN:

I'm not everyone else.
I'm Dan, Aunt Stacy.

STACY:

I know who you are.

(BILLY ENTERS AND OBSERVES THE SCENE)

DAN:

We used to have fun around here. But now it's all "no" and "don't". Maybe I'll just leave like Mr. Conductor.

(STACY LOOKS STARTLED. SHE STARTS FLIPPING THROUGH THE PAGES OF HER PAPER WORK)

#### BILLY:

You don't really think you're going to find the answers in there, do you, Stacy?

(TO DAN)

C'mon Dan, let's take a walk and cool off.

STACY:

Wait. This isn't working. How can I be losing my best friends. I just can't do this anymore.

(HER MOST COMMANDING VOICE)

Hold it right there! Nobody's going anywhere.

(DAN AND BILLY STOP. STACY'S VOICE SOFTENS)

At least not until I apologize. I got carried away.

DAN:

You hurt my feelings.

STACY:

I'm sorry, Dan. stopped thinking about your feelings and everyone else's. That was wrong. But I've got a lot to worry about around Shining Time Station: I've got to make sure it's safe here. clean. And I have to keep the trains running on time, take care of the passengers, and all of you, too. I was just trying to do my job. I thought rules would help

#### BILLY:

Maybe we're the ones who should be helping you. Sounds like we haven't been doing our share around here.

DAN:

If we try harder to help you, do you think we could get rid of some of the rules?

STACY:

Not all the rules, Dan. Just the ones that don't work. The first thing you could do is help me take down the signs.

(DAN AND STACY ARE PULLING DOWN THE FIRST SIGN AS KING ENTERS)

KING:

What's going on here, Miss Jones?

#### STACY:

We're making some changes at Shining Time Station, Mr. King. This station works a lot better when we work together.

#### KING:

But what about leadership, Miss Jones? You know, you're the boss, be bossy and all that.

#### STACY:

Mr.King, I think if you make it clear what help you need, and why you need it, people might just chose to help you-without being bossed around.

#### KING:

Why yes. Yes. Precisely. I've always said that, Miss Jones.

(SCHEMER ENTERS CARRYING THE BOOK AND A BULLHORN)

#### SCHEMER:

You want leadership, J.B. I'm going to show you how bossy a boss can be.

# (THROUGH BULLHORN)

Attention, attention bosses. This is your new boss Schemer with a few announcements. There are going to be some new rules around here starting right now. First the new name: Scheming Time Station. Second, everybody's going to pay me a nickel a day.

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# SCENE 16 (CONT'D)

(KING TAKES THE BOOK OUT OF SCHEMER'S HANDS AND RIPS IT UP)

## SCHEMER:

And another nickel for J.B. King, the bossiest boss of all bosses.

(KING TAKES AWAY SCHEMER'S BULLHORN)

#### SCHEMER:

Make that two nickels for J.B.

## KING:

Miss Jones, you're in charge. Keep up the good work.

(KING EXITS. STACY AND DAN BEGIN REMOVING THE VELVET ROPES TOGETHER)

(DISSOLVE TO:

# SCENE 17 (MAINSET)

v 10 .

(STACY IS AT THE TICKET BOOTH LOOKING CHEERFUL. DAN SHOWS HER A SNOWFLAKE HE JUST CUT OUT OF PAPER)

DAN:

Look, Aunt Stacy.

STACY:

Oh my goodness, is it winter already?

DAN:

I made it for you.

STACY:

It's beautiful, Dan. Thank you.

DAN:

And now I'm going to clean up.

(DAN GOES OVER TO THE BENCH AND STARTS COLLECTING THE BITS OF PAPER LEFT OVER FROM CUTTING THE SNOWFLAKE. MR. C. APPEARS OUTSIDE THE SIGNAL HOUSE)

DAN:

Mr. Conductor. You're back.

MR. C:

My front. My side. My other side.

DAN:

What about the mouse?



MR. C:

I found a place he liked even better. There's a painting of a little country cottage on the wall of a cheese factory, not too far from here. When I told the mouse about it, he packed up his bags and moved there as quick as a bunny.

DAN:

That's great, Mr. C.

MR. C:

I guess we're all back to helping each other out. Everything is back to normal.

(TAKE SCHEMER IN THE ARCADE, USING THE JUKEBOX AS A WRITING SURFACE)

SCHEMER:

(AS HE WRITES)

Schemer's Guide to Success in Business Without Actually Doing Any Work. Chapter one, Taking Credit for Other People's Ideas...

(DAN AND MR. C. EXCHANGE A LOOK)

DAN & MR. C:

Yup.

(FADE)